

£7_m LIFELINE FOR GORBALS

**SDA IN HUSH-HUSH
DEAL OVER HUTCHIE E**

A BLUEPRINT for the Gorbals will breathe new life into Glasgow's biggest eyesore – the Hutchie E area flattened after an asbestos scare.

The area is to be rejuvenated following a hush-hush £7 million deal between the Scottish Development Agency and Glasgow City Council. It was rushed through this afternoon by anxious council chiefs . . . only days before the SDA goes out of existence.

PROVISIONAL

And the deal for 900 new houses and commercial properties includes shock plans to move Gorbals Park.

The multi-million pound package includes major redevelopment work on the 40-acre

EXCLUSIVE

By GORDON THOMSON

site where flats were demolished three years ago after the Evening Times revealed how they were riddled with potentially lethal brown asbestos.

The blueprint approved by a working party headed by leader Pat Lally involves a deal by the SDA to buy the site and neighbouring land in Crown Street for £1m.

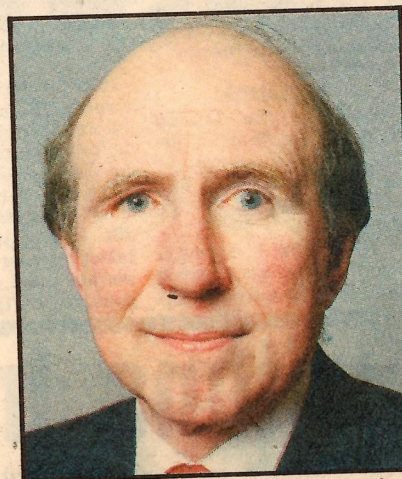
But councillors have attached conditions to the sale – it will only go ahead if the SDA:

- BUYS other properties costing £1m to ease the proposals.

- CARRIES out ground works estimated to cost more than £1.1m.

- PAYS for road alignment work costing more than £2m.

- FORKS out £1.6m towards the rehabilitation of Caledonia Road Church.



PAT LALLY . . . hush-hush deal

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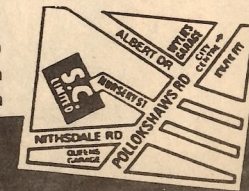
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PACKED MEETING HEARS PLEDGE ON FLATS P



I'LL FIGHT TO KEEP YOU IN THE GORBALS

GORBALS tenants whose homes face the bulldozers were given a pledge last night.

Hutchesontown councillor James Mutter told them: "I'll battle all the way to make sure you get re-housed here."

He also promised he would hold a survey of all tenants in the area to gauge their feelings on the plan for Queen Elizabeth Square.

ANGRY

Councillor Mutter spoke to a stormy meeting of more than 400 residents in The John Mains Community Centre.

All were angry that the plan to demolish their homes was revealed in the Evening Times before they were told of it.

They were divided, however, over whether they wanted it to happen. In bizarre scenes at the end of the meeting rival groups gathered at each end of the hall.

One group with placards chanted: "Keep them up, keep them up," while those at the other end shouted: "Pull them down, pull them down."

During the meeting, there were angry scenes as housing official David Lasage tried to tell tenants no decision to demolish the flats had been taken.

IMPROVEMENT

He was shouted down by various tenants including Mrs Bridie McGoldrick, who said:

"I've heard nothing new. The Evening Times were right

By ROB ROBERTSON

you. We want to live here and will do all we can to stay."

Mr Lasage explained an improvement contract worth £4.4m had been cancelled but may start in two years time at a cost of £7.7m.

He admitted that the cost of improving each of the 400 flats in the block would be around £36,000.

His comments drew an angry response from Gorbals residents who don't live in Queen Elizabeth Square.

Bert Nixon, of nearby Logan Street, said: "The council can't justify spending such an enormous sum of money."

"It would mean other projects in the Gorbals would suffer and the people won't accept that."

TERRIBLE

Tenants such as Shona Sykes, Grace McKenzie, Jean Jack, Gina McGuire and Anne Buchanan, of 32 Queen Elizabeth Square, all felt the flats should come down.

Anne said: "The flats are in a terrible state and should come down."

Stephen McGuire, of 16 Queen Elizabeth Square said: "If we get offers of good homes in the Gorbals that would be okay."

Councillor Mutter made it clear that re-housing may be over a five year period.

But Anne Flanagan, Anne-Marie Evans, Catherine Tobin and Teresa Flanagan were against the demolition plans.

Anne said: "We have lived here for 20 years and we



HANDS OFF: TH message (above) Donna McFadden, her little sister Marie.



POINT TAKEN: projects in the would suffer," Bert Nixon (left) Pictures: HARRY TURNER

PACKED MEETING HEARS PLEDGE ON FLATS PLAN

Wednesday, July 4, 1990 EVENING TIMES Page 3



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Trouble flares as fans gather in Turin

ENGLISH fans told today how Italians arrived at their campsite in Turin last night and started pelting them with rocks and bottles.

The attack happened amid growing fears of violence at tonight's World Cup semi-final between England and West Germany.

Today's clash occurred at around 2am outside a heavily-policed campsite where about 2000 English fans are staying.

Police used teargas and batons to disperse the fans. One policeman was slightly injured. There were no reports of English fans hurt.

Eyewitnesses said English supporters built a barricade across one entrance to the camp and set fire to it, apparently out of fear that the Italians were trying to storm the site.

UGLY

One fan from Manchester, said the Italians arrived out of nowhere.

All were angry that the plan to demolish their homes was revealed in the Evening Times before they were told of it.

They were divided, however, over whether they wanted it to happen. In bizarre scenes at the end of the meeting rival groups gathered at each end of the hall.

One group with placards chanted: "Keep them up, keep them up," while those at the other end shouted: "Pull them down, pull them down."

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IMPROVEMENT

He was shouted down by various tenants including Mrs Bridie McGoldrick, who said:

"I've heard nothing new. The Evening Times were right about Hutchie E and they are right again.

"You can claim you don't have plans to knock the flats down but we don't believe

"It would mean other projects in the Gorbals would suffer and the people won't accept that."

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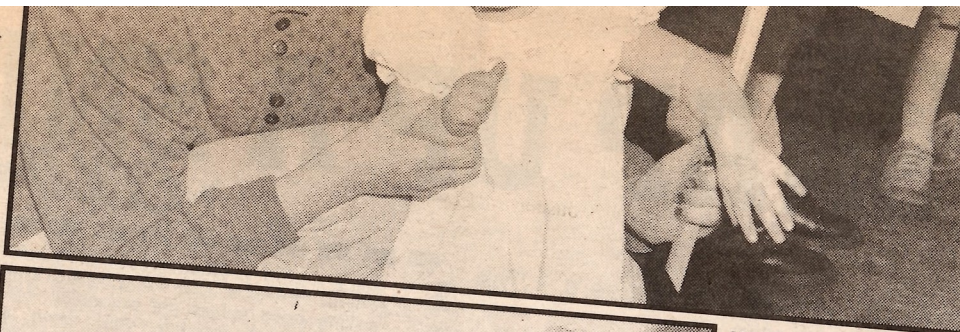
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But Anne Flanagan, Anne-Marie Evans, Catherine Tobin and Teresa Flanagan were against the demolition plans.

Anne said: "We have lived here for years and want to stay."

Housing director David Comley said the survey of tenants would be held as soon as possible.



HANDS OFF: That's the message (above) from Donna McFadden and her little sister Claire Marie.



POINT TAKEN: "Other projects in the Gorbals would suffer," said Bert Nixon (left).

Pictures:
HARRY TURNER

peating the English with stones and bottles.

Police said they briefly detained between 30 and 40 Italians to "cool the situation".

The incident came as local people took to the streets in an ugly mood after Italy's defeat against cup holders Argentina in a penalty shoot-out.

Police are concerned that more trouble will flare in Turin where tonight's match is being played.

The two countries' hooligan fringes meet against the background of Turin's lingering resentment over the Heysel stadium disaster in Brussels.

Then, 39 people, mainly followers of Turin's Juventus team, lost their lives when Liverpool fans rioted before the 1985 European Cup Final.

● **IT'S OVER, ENGLAND:**
Back Page

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PROTESTS HALT SEAL SLAUGHTER

THE South African government today suspended plans to slaughter 30,000 seals for dog food after furious protests from animal lovers, including French film star Brigitte Bardot.

"In the light of misgivings about the procedure, the culling will be temporarily suspended," said Environment and Water Affairs Minister Gert Kotze.

"The culling of wild animals is always unpleasant, but unfortunately cannot

always be avoided," he said.

A Taiwanese firm had planned plans to club to death 25,000 seal cubs and shoot 5,500 adult bulls off the west coast from mid-July.

The meat would be used for dog food.

Environmental groups denounced the plan as barbaric and threatened law suits to have it stopped.

Kotze said Cape seals ate 130,000 tons of fish a day.

Man hit by taxi dies

A MAN has died after being struck by a taxi in Greenock.

John Campbell (52), of 47 Seamore Street, Largs, died in Inverclyde Royal Hospital early today from severe head injuries.

The accident happened as Mr Campbell crossed Regent Street in Greenock near Mearns Street.

A full report is being sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

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Lafferty must repay £130,000

By JOHN EASTON

FORMER building tycoon Frank Lafferty has lost an appeal against a sheriff's decision that he must repay almost £130,000 he received for work carried out by his collapsed construction company on the Hutchie E development in Glasgow.

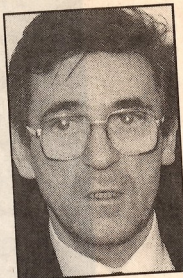
Sheriff Principal John Mowat, QC, in a written judgment, said he had no hesitation in refusing the appeal. However, Mr Joseph Friel, lawyer for Mr Lafferty, said yesterday that the judgment would continue to be contested.

In his 18-page findings in June, Sheriff John S. Boyle described the claims of fraud against Mr Lafferty as "stark in their simplicity". He also ordered the failed businessman to pay interest from the date of the hearing, which could amount to a further £20,000.

Within hours of the ruling, lawyers acting for Mr Lafferty had lodged an appeal at Airdrie Sheriff Court. The appeal judgment has upheld the claim against him by Mr Bob Glen and Mr Frank Blin, joint receivers, who raised the action on behalf of the Lafferty building company creditors.

Sheriff Boyle's judgment was that Mr Lafferty had breached his duty of trust as a director of the company and had also defrauded the pursuers. This was because of seven payments Mr Lafferty ordered to be made to himself by cheque. The money, amounting to £129,421, was paid between August 11, 1987, and March 10, 1988.

The payments came from a contract between Glasgow District Council and the Lafferty building company, which was part of a consortium with Barratt Urban Renewal (Scotland) Ltd and London Land Investments and



Frank Lafferty

Property Holdings Ltd to develop the Hutchie E site.

Sheriff Principal Mowat says in his judgment that he has no doubt that in writing to the firm of MacRoberts (solicitors for the consortium) Mr Lafferty represented himself as acting under his authority from the pursuers in authorising the payments to himself as an individual. According to the pursuers' averments, this was a fraudulent misrepresentation.

The Sheriff Principal said he considers that Mr Lafferty was involved in a deceitful contrivance to transfer money being held in trust for the pursuers to himself.

Sheriff Boyle had clearly indicated that this was his view when he approved of the description of the defender's action as "bold and dissembling use" of his authority under the agreement. The sheriff was, accordingly, fully justified in holding that the averments of fraud were relevant.

Coffin comes under hammer

An oak coffin used on stage by Screaming Lord Sutch is expected to fetch up to £150 at an auction of pop memorabilia in London next month.

27/7/90

8/1/91

CITY SHEDS THOUSANDS OF HOMES

By RON MacKENNA

GLASGOW is to lose up to 40,000 council houses over the next ten years.

The move — which will transform the look of the city — will affect almost a third of the council's housing stock.

Half of the properties affected are are either 'hard to let' or beyond repair.

They will be sold off to private developers for improvement or they will be demolished.

The remaining 20,000 will be transferred to housing associations or co-operatives.

The move has been prompted by new figures which reveal that the numbers of people who want council houses is likely to fall before the end of the century.

The council hopes to reduce the burden of maintaining unwanted properties.



DAVID COMLEY... has to balance the figures

Already the council has 9,000 empty properties and the cost of maintaining them costs each council tenant £2 per week.

Demolition or improvement for sale will cut council costs and increase the number of home-owners in city estates.

The city council say it cannot afford to pay for improvements out of its own resources.

However, by selling them off, developers will qualify for improvement grants from either the council or Scottish Homes.

"The balance between demolition and improvement for sale will depend on the level of Government grants," said housing director David Comley.

RESOURCES

"It's extremely hard to predict, but basically the less Government cash available to subsidise refurbishment, the greater the number that will have to be demolished."

The remaining 20,000 council houses earmarked for housing associations and co-operatives will give people more choice, said Mr Comley.

He added: "In an area like Easterhouse — which is already changing — there will be people living in council properties, housing association homes and in their own houses."